

August 4, 2011

USPS Postal Regulatory Commission

**RE: Docket A201-34**

Dear Postal Regulatory Commission,

I am writing regarding the proposed closure of the Innis Post Office. There is no logical reason to close this post office. I will expound upon my reasons here in.

I was born and raised in Innis, Louisiana which is located in northern Pointe Coupee. I currently have ownership in two residences in Innis. Northern Pointe Coupee is defined by the countryside that expands the twenty miles between the Morganza Spillway to the Atchafalaya bridge between Simmesport & Lettsworth. Innis sits at the mid point in this 20 mile stretch and is the only structured village.

As a child, this area was served by 2 post offices, Innis and Batchelor. Some time in the 1990's, a modular post office was added in Lettsworth. For some unknown reason, the community of Innis was never served by routes and routes ran from the Batchelor post office. When Lettsworth opened, routes extended from this area. Neither Batchelor or Lettsworth is a structured village. Both are vast communities with few or little businesses. The largest business in any of these rural areas is Nan-ya, which is a mile from the Batchelor post office and three miles from the Innis post office.

It is no surprise that the postal service must make decisions to reduce spending as it seems to be in the news daily. I do think that people in the northern Pointe Coupee area understand that cuts are necessary. However, I think the postal service should look outside of the box and see what best serves the entire rural area.

Innis is the locale of two grocery stores that serve the entire northern Pointe Coupee area. People who reside in the area will visit Innis at least once a week to shop. Innis is also home to churches of many faiths, which means many people in the area will visit the community once a week for service. Lettsworth and Batchelor do not have community grocery stores or numerous faith congregations with large attendance.

Several governmental agencies and business have been strategically placed in Innis because it is the center of northern Pointe Coupee. The library for the region is in Innis, as well as the community center, fire department, park and the senior center. These are all services run by governmental agencies selected to be placed in Innis because of locale and because it is a community. Furthermore, the most recent new businesses are locating to Innis. These include a medical center that has the ability to provide emergency medical transport, a dental clinic and a custom sawmill.

It makes no logical sense to keep two post offices open in out lying areas that are not central when there could be more savings by having one centralized post office for the entire area. I do not understand why the post office will not follow the pattern of other government agencies that choose to place services in Innis as it best serves the entire area.

I do hope USPS makes the decision not only upon what is best financially for their needs, but what is best to serve the needs of the entire area. By closing the two outlying facilities and creating a super post office in Innis, every resident in Northern Pointe Coupee is a maximum of 10 minutes away from the post office. Besides, if USPS is saving money, why should they even care where the post office is located? If consolidation is the answer, logic and reason provides for consolidating to a central location.

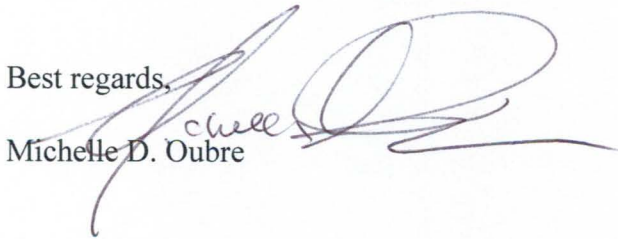
I do think that the postal service can provide outgoing mailboxes for pick up at the end of the day in the community of Lettsworth and Batchelor to serve customers with mailing needs outside the routes. All routes can be placed out of Innis, which has the carrier at any given time 10 miles away from the post office.

The community of Innis will continue to grow, whereas the communities of Lettsworth and Batchelor will continue to fade. The people who are behind reviewing the numbers have never lived a day in the community and are making decisions based upon ink on paper. I do urge you to spend time riding around each of the communities and see what makes the most logical sense.

Your consideration to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Best regards,

Michelle D. Oubre

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michelle D. Oubre", is written over the printed name. The signature is stylized with a large, looping "M" and "O".